

OCTOBER 1950



BIBLE  
SOCIETY

# Record

Have You Signed the Good Will book?

(See p. 118)



## Wayside Scripture Distribution in Thailand (Siam)

To keep up with the demand 240,000 Gospel portions were published in 1949 and thousands of New Testaments. A new printing of the Old Testament, which in the Thai language is a huge book, is now in process



# Life Blossoms in the Desert

*The Stirring Report of a Missionary's First Visit to an area not far from his Station in Kansu Province, China, where a Single Gospel bought by an Illiterate Man years ago had brought Redemption to a Whole Community*

BY W. S. C. WALKER

**L**AST WEEK end I paid my first visit to the outlying country districts since coming here to Kiuchuan. This was not because I had not wanted to go before, but hosts of things have cropped up which repeatedly wrecked plans which were again and again renewed. At last, however, Liu Ting-tu, the leading deacon in our church here, was free to take me.

Lin Shui is a small town sixteen miles from here on the old Kintah motor road. The Misses French and Cable visited it several times when operating in this part of the world. From there one goes three more miles into the heart of nowhere, to find six small homesteads parked in the center of miles and miles and miles of barren alkali-loaded country. At the moment (March 1950) the whole place is frozen solid, but in about another month's time everywhere will be oozing water, and the whole will be one huge bog. Even the floors of the homes in this little settlement will ooze water as the folk move about from place to place. For a month or more this whole area is unapproachable, so we had to get our initial visit in before the thaw came. There in this out-of-the-way corner one found something really to cheer the heart of any worker for his Lord. One could almost call it the only bright spot in the district.

Years ago three ladies, missionaries of the China Inland Mission visiting Lin Shui, sold a Gospel to a man named Yang. He could not read, but he took the book home and put it by. Later his brother made him a visit and read the Gospel, became intensely interested and made several trips into Kiuchuan to hear more. Finally he was converted and went back to be used of the Lord to bring his brother and the brother's whole family to the Lord. Those two men are now dead. The widow of the original purchaser of the Gospel is still alive and, with her two sons, their wives and six grandchildren, still rejoices in the Lord.

Opposition was bitter at first, but gradually one after another of the surrounding homes have been won to the Lord; and reaching out, they have touched their neighbors on every side, with the result that now from all quarters men and women come, the nearest three miles away, to gather every Sunday for service.



*Plowing in North China with little promise*

All are living on the brink of starvation, barely wrestling a living from the inhospitable Gobi desert; yet this Yang family have put up a room twenty by twenty feet, whitewashed it within and without and suitably furnished it to serve as a chapel.

All this was a spontaneous movement of the Spirit, for I was the first missionary to tread that ground and visit their home. They now have forty or fifty people from the scattered desert homesteads who are real believers, and the Lord seems to have worked not merely in individuals but in whole families.

Political events prevented our visit last August but if all goes well, this summer should see a wonderful gathering and witness to the Lord in the Chinese Fifth Moon (June 1950). Now that I have been taken once and can find my way alone, I am planning regular visits to the wonderfully responsive people in the future.

## A PRAYER

God of our fathers, who hast spoken to Thy children in all generations, we praise Thee for Thy published Word, which speaks to us today. The grandeur of its thoughts lifts us out of ourselves. The beauty of its phrases cleanses our spirits. It is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

But most of all we thank Thee for the Saviour who speaks to us from its pages, for His sufficiency and His grace. We thank Thee that not only to us, but to men of all nations, He speaks through Thy Holy Book even in these perilous times, with Pentecostal power in their own tongues.

Inspire the hearts and strengthen the hands of all those who today are bringing Thy Word with power to the people who sit in darkness—the translators, copyists, printers, colporteurs, teachers—that great company of the light-bearers of the truth of Thy redemption through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.



# Bible Society Record

A JOURNAL DEDICATED TO THE WIDER DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF THE  
HOLY SCRIPTURES

VOLUME 95 OCTOBER · 1950 NUMBER 8

## What About Korea?

*It is on almost every page of every paper every day. One factor seldom mentioned in the dispatches is the Bible. What about the Bible in Korea?*

THE current news is that the American Bible Society has just shipped a special edition of 50,000 copies of Korean Scriptures for distribution to the South Korean Army, Navy and Air Force. The books were printed at the request of the Korean Bible Society, whose headquarters are in Seoul. The books which contain the four Gospels and the Book of Acts are sturdy little volumes bound in black fabrikoid. Besides these books, designed particularly for the service men, the Society is sending 100,000 copies of little illustrated booklets containing the Sermon on the Mount in Korean and English on opposite pages.

Korea has been one of the countries where the cause of foreign missions has blossomed with great promise. One way to measure this is to discover that since 1882, when mission work was beginning there, 23,000,000 copies of the Scriptures have been distributed.

Since the close of World War II, there has been a famine of the Word in Korea. During the Japanese occupancy in the last years of the war, the military authorities ordered a complete elimination from hymn books, Bibles and all Christian literature of every reference to the Kingdom of God or Christ as King, as such expressions would be an affront to the exalted idea of the status of the Japanese Emperor.

To this program of mutilation, and the wear and tear upon the dwindling supply of Bibles used during the war, came four years in which the Bible House in Seoul was closed and no Scriptures were either printed or sold in Korea.

Then came the day of liberation, when it was discovered that the Korean Church, so far from having been decimated, was even stronger in its faith and in

its numbers. Some Scriptures and Bible-printing plates had been hidden to avoid confiscation, but the quantities of books for sale were pitifully below the need. New converts were being won, but there were no Bibles for them. The demand for Scriptures mounted.

Then came word that the American Bible Society had shipped through the American Army of Occupation 50,000 Korean New Testaments printed in

the United States. They were sent as a free gift to the Korean Bible Society. This was only a beginning. Other and larger shipments followed. Mr. E. T. Chung, who was until recently Secretary of the Korean Bible Society, wrote of these shipments, "It was just the sweet rain after many years of continued drought."

As an indication of the pressure of demand, there were on hand at the Seoul office of the Korean Bible Society, when the first 50,000 Testaments arrived from America in 1946, orders for 90,000! Besides this were requests for an additional 85,000 from the chaplains working in the prisons of Korea.

Then in August of 1947 there came a formal request from the Korean Churches for a long-range schedule of shipments calling for 200,000 New Testaments annually for five years; 250,000 whole Korean Bibles as soon as possible and 50,000 English New Testaments of Army type and 15,000 Russian New Testaments,



*A Presbyterian Church in Seoul worships out of doors while its new building is going up*



these last to be sent at once particularly for high-school and university students. Ever since this request came the American Bible Society has been striving by every means within its grasp to meet the need. Since 1945 the Society has published 260,000 Korean New Testaments and 125,000 each of the Gospels of St. Luke and St. John. All of these have been shipped to Korea. Meanwhile, in 1949 the publication of Korean Scriptures was resumed in Korea with binding materials supplied by the American Bible Society. Whole Bibles in Korea are being furnished by the British and Foreign Bible Society. Special paper for the printing of Braille Scriptures supplied from America has made possible the publishing of an edition of the entire New Testament for the blind of Korea.

Now, of course, it may be assumed that all Scrip-

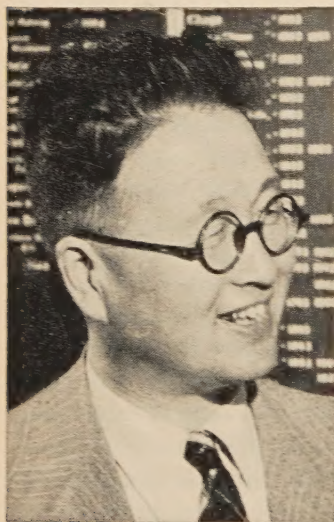
ture publication in Korea has ceased. But the Korean Christians have proven their loyalty and persistence. As the way opens the Christian people of the United States will see to it that funds are made available to the American Bible Society to establish again the Korean Bible Society's production program.

There are among the 30,000,000 people of Korea about 600,000 Christians—a small percentage, but when the proportion of Christians holding position of influence and responsibility in Korea's life is reckoned with, the Christians of Korea are a mighty people. The future of Korea may still be determined by its Christian leaders. Their Church must remain, as it has been from the beginning almost seventy years ago, a Bible-centered Church.

## The Victory of Love

*An incident related by Rev. Young Bin Im, Secretary of the Korean Bible Society, when he was visiting in England and the United States in 1949. Secretary Im's own translation into English has to a large extent been retained*

ONE day a man of short build came to our depot and asked for two hundred copies of the New Testament for lepers free of charge. Although we were very short of books, we gladly gave them. His name is Mr. Sohn Yang Won, a Presbyterian pastor in charge of a leper asylum in the southern district of Korea. He has been engaged in this work for more than twenty-five years. He is a man of faith.



*Secretary Young Bin Im of the Korean Bible Society*

When Shinto shrine worship was made compulsory by the Japanese authorities, he refused. Every school was also forced to worship, so he took his two sons away from school and sent them into a factory where shrine worship was not practised. Japanese police summoned Pastor Sohn and ordered him to worship shrine, but he would not obey. He was put into prison. While he was in the prison his family suffered great hardship. They lived on the meager wage earned by the two boys.

After the United States Army came to Korea, Pastor Sohn was released. He resumed his old work in the leper asylum again. He sent his two sons to a high school in Soonchun. The elder son was twenty-three years old, and the younger one nineteen; and

they had to study with twelve- or thirteen-year-olds

These two sons were as faithful to the Lord as their father. They proclaimed the salvation of Christ both in school and out. They became leaders of the small band of Christians in the school.

Last October Communists raised riot in the districts of Yusoo and Soonchun in the extreme south of Korea. Communist students went around here and there with the Communist rioters. If these students pointed a man out as a reactionary, he was doomed to be killed. They pointed out many Christians, government officers and Nationalist party members. The rioters caught them and brought them to the so-called People's Court, and these victims were sentenced to death.

One day the elder son of Pastor Sohn was in his lodgings, when the landlord came in and urged him to escape; but he said that he would die for the cause of Christ rather than run away, and he stayed in his room, praying.

Rioters came to his lodging house, guided by Communist students. Among the Communist students there was a boy who was in the same class as Mr. Sohn's elder son. He opened the door of the room where Mr. Sohn's elder son was and pointed to him, crying, "Here is the most obnoxious Christian boy. Take him. Can you still preach your Bible?" The Christian boy replied, "Yes, I can preach and will preach forever." Then the rioters rushed at him, beat him and stabbed him with bamboo spears. He was taken to the People's Court and sentenced to be shot. When the Christian boy was taken to the place of execution, his younger brother ran to him and screened him, saying, "Don't kill him. He is inno-



it. Kill me instead." The rioters shot both boys to death. While they were shot, they prayed. One day after this murder the national army occupied Soonchun and drove out the Communists. Everything was suddenly changed. The national army, police and members of the Nationalist Youth organization began to hunt out the Communists in the town. They arrested many Communist students. Among them was the boy who caused the death of Mr. Sohn's sons. He was sentenced to be shot. When Pastor Sohn heard of the death of his two sons, he prayed, saying, "I offer my thanksgiving to God, who has given me two sons who can die a martyr's death." When he heard that the enemy of his two sons was arrested and sentenced to death, he hurried to the

army headquarters and asked the commanding officer to pardon the Communist boy. His argument was that, although his two boys were dead, they were saved; but if this Communist boy were shot, he would not have any chance to be saved. The commanding officer would not listen at first, but the pastor's plea was so earnest that the officer at last gave way. The boy was pardoned and given to the pastor. Mr. Sohn took the boy to his home and loved him as his son. The boy was moved and became a Christian.

The Bible has helped Pastor Sohn to do such a heroic act. The Bible is working miracles in our country. It has changed our life, our culture, and given us new standards of morality. [No word has come from Mr. Im since the war in Korea began. Ed.]

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## Philadelphia Helps Africa



MR. J. Paul Sauders, superintendent of the Summer Bible School program of the Kraybill Mennonite School of Mt. Joy, Pennsylvania, is a firm believer in the project method in Bible teaching. One of the summer schools this year was held at the Mennonite Church on Diamond Street in Philadelphia, where practically the entire population is Negro.

In 1938 one of Mr. Sauder's former pupils went to Africa as a missionary and was assigned to a station among the Zanaki tribe, living near Lake Victoria in Tanganyia. The missionary, Mr. J. Clyde Shenk, and his wife found that the language had never been reduced to writing, so they set about to master it, after many months producing a primer through which they taught the people to read; and at length, with native

help, translating the book of Matthew into the Zanaki tongue. An edition of 2,500 copies of the Gospel were published by the American Bible Society and sent to the field in 1948.

At this summer vacation school at the Diamond Street Church in Philadelphia the pupils were shown a copy of the Zanaki "Matayo" and pictures of missionary Shenk and his family as well as some of the Zanaki people reading their own copies of the Gospel.

As a result the summer school's offerings totaled over \$20 and were sent to the Bible Society for its translation work, which is always reaching out into more and more new languages, so that primitive people the world over may hear God speak to them in their own tongue.



# Bibles for Japan

*Have you signed the Good Will book?*

**H**AS your signature been sent in for the "Good Will book"? Possibly you have not received earlier copies of the *Bible Society Record* which told about these signatures and this book. In brief it is this. General MacArthur has asked the American Bible Society to help supply Japanese Bibles and Testaments in sufficient quantity so that one may be put in every home in every hamlet and village in Japan. The immediate supply he requests is 10,000,000 copies.

Japan presents today an unprecedented missionary opportunity. The people are looking for a new ground for their shattered faith. They are turning in the direction of Christianity and many thousands have begun to investigate its claims and read its Book. Over 4,000,000 Bibles and Testaments have already been distributed. A large corps of colporteurs have been supplied with bicycles and are carrying out a bold plan to visit every area in the islands.

Another glowing factor in the situation is that Japan is a nation of one language and that virtually everyone can read. Where was there ever a missionary door so wide open?

The plan is to present to the Japan Bible Society at the close of the year a great book, whose pages are now being filled, bearing to the people of Japan the signatures of hundreds of thousands of the people of America who have made possible the gift of the Christian Scriptures to Japan.

Many of the pages of the Good Will book have been headed by the signatures of the Governors of the various states. A gift of one dollar or more should accompany each signature.

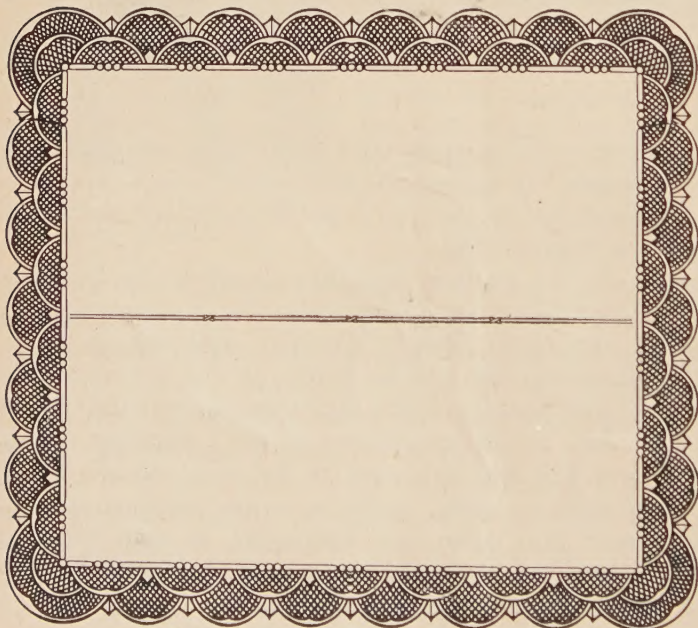
Many are making memorial gifts. Others are devoting their tithes. A boy in Peoria, Illinois contributed a tithe "from my paper route." Still others are making genuine personal sacrifices. A pastor in Iowa sent \$25 saying, "My wife and I intended to go to Bible conference; however, after receiving your challenge of the tremendous opportunity we decided the Bible conference could get along without us; but people in the world cannot get along without the Word of God."

Among the memorial gifts was one sent in by a young woman from a little town in Kentucky. Three names accompanied the gift. She wrote, "I am a teacher in a mission school. The names I am sending are those of my former pupils. One of them was killed on a bombing raid over Tokyo during World War II. The others were killed in accidents during 1949."

On the columns below you may sign your name and get a friend or member of your family to join you. The blank on the left is for your signature to be affixed to the Good Will book. That at the right is for your name and address for our records. Some of you will want to send more than two signatures. If so, write for the folder entitled "Bibles not Bombs" for Japan. It provides for five signatures with a prepaid return envelope and gives additional data regarding this great opportunity in Japan.

Let every reader of this page furnish at least his own signature.

We must meet General MacArthur's request. Here are the simple ways of doing it.



NAME

STREET ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

AMOUNT OF GIFT \$

NAME

STREET ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

AMOUNT OF GIFT \$



# A Club of Daily Bible Readers

*You can join this Club at no expense beyond the three-cent stamp required to write to its founder and promoter, who contributes this little article and who lives in Hemet, California*

BY WALTER A. CARR

IN MY correspondence, which is quite widely spread out among shut-ins and hospitalized friends, I adopted the following scheme. I enclosed copies of the American Bible Society's "Daily Bible Readings" with the suggestion that the recipients join in a "Pre-d Bible-Reading Club," wherein each of us at the same hour would be observing our reading and having in thought and prayer others of our informal group. Seven o'clock on the Pacific coast, ten o'clock on the Eastern seaboard, is the hour of our synchronous timing. At the same hour, east or west, a common fellowship is carried on with great mutuality of spirit and purpose.

In looking for a name those few persons who organized the little circle of Bible readers might in all humility have hesitated to call their group a real club. They may have been reading that incomparable Christmas story of Tom Sayres', "A Town is Born," where, in that last paragraph of heart-gripping thrill, the little girl is so unbelievably heartened at the words of that great mine magnate as he answered the girl's inquiry chokingly, saying, "The angels changed the name of your Pretend Town to Real Town."

Perhaps it has been the simplicity and naturalness of the organization that has imparted unexpected strength in its growth. Of greatest value is the fact of reading at first hand, without any outside comment, the selection of daily Bible readings prepared by the American Bible Society. And it is wonderful, too, that everywhere we have access, first hand, to that volume that Sir Walter Scott so fitly emphasized as "The Only Book."

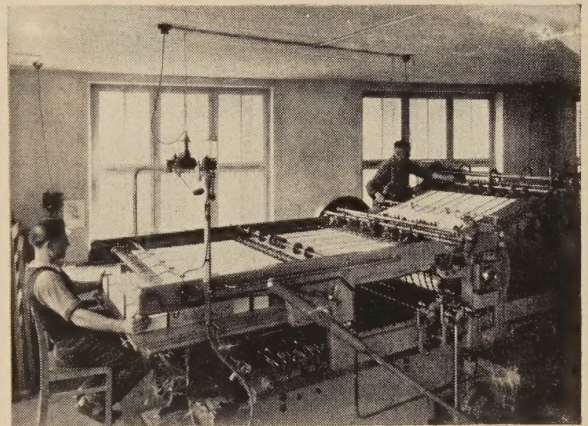
Well, if you ask how it worked out, I'll say it is a splendid movement, in a sort of fellowship that is well worth extending. Our reading and prayer movement is progressing. At present the memberships include folk from very many of our States, both east and west and north and south. From Maine and Vermont through the Middle West and down through Virginia, Tennessee, Arizona and California, it is heartening to note how generally invitations to membership are accepted and additional reading slips requested for friends. It is rewarding to receive letters from rest homes, hospitals and various sanatoriums, telling how individuals are faithfully observing our resting hour with perseverance and rich reward.

The salient points about this contagious movement seem to rest in the idea that we are all reading the same Bible passages at the same hour and are holding each other up in special intercessory prayer at that

time. We are finding the 1950 set of Readings most acceptable as our guide.

## Bible Progress in Germany

Many *Record* readers will recall the story, appearing in the April 1949 issue, of the extensive program of Bible publication which the American Bible Society has financed and developed in postwar Germany, where, when the fighting ceased in 1945, there was found to be a shortage of approximately 12,000,000 Bibles and Testaments and no resources available in Germany for their production. Included in the hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of Bibles and Testaments shipped from America in 1945 and 1946,



and of raw materials sent later for production of the books in Germany, there was included a gift of \$17,500 for the construction in Germany of a speed press to be presented to the Union of German Bible Societies and set up at the Württemberg Bible Institute, where Bibles have been published since 1812. The Württemberg plant was partially destroyed in the war and has now been rebuilt, to become again one of the great centers of Bible production in Bible-hungry Germany.

The accompanying picture shows the new press provided by money donated to the American Bible Society by the churchpeople of the United States. When the picture was taken the press was turning out the pages for the "Stuttgart Pocket Bible," a very popular small volume distributed by the Churches to new converts and Sunday-school children.



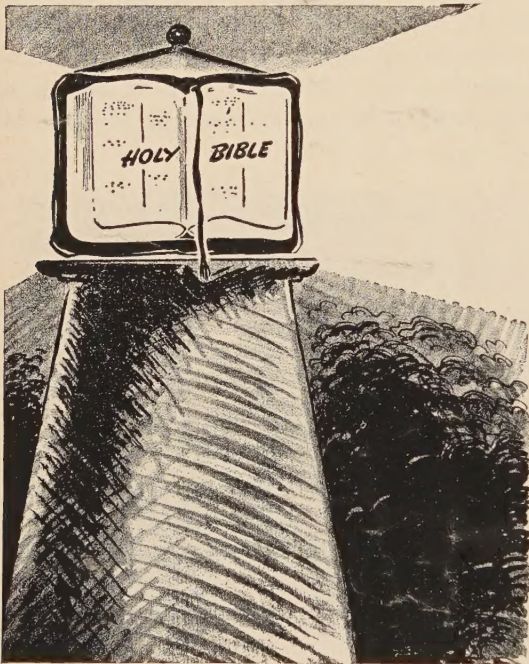
# THE BIBLE—



*The entrance of thy word giveth light.—Psalms 119:130*



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*O earth, earth, earth, hear the word of the Lord.—  
Jeremiah 22:29*

*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.—  
Psalms 119:105*

**Kiyoshi Togasaki**, President of the *Nippon Times*, Tokyo: As a "lamp unto our feet, and a light unto our path," nothing can compare with or supersede God's Word, the Holy Bible.

**Dr. John R. Mott**: "I do not know any other Society touching the life of those countries I know (and they number eighty-three) more deeply and at more points than your Society."

**A College Student**: My ideas have changed greatly since doing these readings of the bookmark. Before, I only had a hazy notion as to what the Bible was, mainly because I'd never read it and had no desire to do so.

**An Elderly Woman**: About the Bible bookmarks, in which I am very much interested. I am staying in the old people's home. Have not been able to work for nearly four years but am able to get around some. Will be able to distribute one hundred of the bookmarks with the Bible readings on it.

**A Pastor in Kansas**: I have the privilege of placing in the public library five hundred of the bookmarks listing passages for Reading between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Please send them to me at the parsonage address above, and I will take them to the library.

**A Store Manager**: I was greatly touched by your offer to supply us with a quantity of Bible Reading lists. I hardly know what to say as to the quantity. Two of the wrappers at the desks are very good in putting inclosures in packages they wrap. Suppose this year we try to dispose of 500.

**From a College Town**: Am I too late in my request for five hundred of the Daily Bible Read-



*My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother.—Proverbs 6:20*



Write  
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They lis  
be read  
Christma  
program  
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# Light and Guide

*the Bible Reading, Thanksgiving to Christmas 1950.*  
*WBR bookmarks you need. They list the 33 Scrip-*  
*turally from Thanksgiving to Christmas, together with*  
*suggestions for rewarding Bible reading.*  
*request to the American Bible Society*



Worldwide  
 you need.  
 passages to  
 giving to  
 even-point  
 successful

AMERICAN  
 450 Park

*Who is among you . . . that walketh in darkness, and  
 hath no light?—Isaiah 50:10*

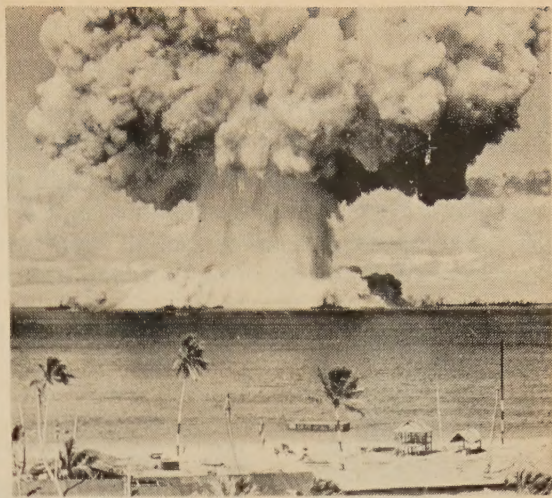
ing bookmarks? These will be distributed to students of . . . College and our families. We have distributed these bookmarks for several years and get many comments later as to the blessings and joy that come from the Reading.

**From a College Student Worker:** Enclosed is a card ordering materials for the promotion of Worldwide Bible Reading and Universal Bible Sunday. We plan to use these here on the campus in cooperation with the local churches. This activity is being sponsored by the Student Association on our campus.

**From a Faithful Worker in Missouri:** After receiving the packet of materials for Worldwide Bible Reading, I took the bookmarks and poster and called on the school superintendent to see if I could enlist his cooperation in getting it in the city schools. He agreed to place one in the hands of each student from the fourth grade up through the high school and to display prominently a poster in each room.

**From a Light and Power Company:** We were glad to include a bookmark in each of the 220,000 monthly statements. We received more favorable response to this project than to any other we have ever undertaken.

**From the New York Bible Society:** Orders from throughout the city have come in like flakes of snow.



*Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not  
 pass away.—Mark 13:31*



*A sower went forth to sow . . . The seed is the word of God.  
 —Luke 8:5; 8:11*



*. . . Written for our learning, that we through patience and  
 comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.—Romans 15:4*



# The Bible in Migrant Ministry

BY ZELPHA HENDERSON

"Teacher, help me find that verse in the Bible!" Barbara always wanted to read right along with the teacher, as did most of the rest of the boys and girls. There is something about holding a Bible that makes Sunday school, even though conducted outdoors, important and meaningful to migrant children.



*Miss Margaret West, a Home Missions Council worker, reads from the Bible to migrant children. The four children present an illuminating study in the origins of migrant groups. Starting from the left, Alicia is a Mexican child from the State of Sonora; Margarita, an American child of Spanish descent from San Antonio; Maxine, a child of Anglo-Saxon lineage originally from Arkansas; Frederico, one of eight children of a family that annually moves from the Imperial Valley up through the San Joaquin with the seasons*

Bibles are always considered essential equipment when loading "The Harvester" (the mobile unit) for a day's visit to the camp homes of migratory workers. Even the Spanish-speaking children who do not understand any English soon learn to distinguish the difference between a story book and the Bible. For some, repeating a memory verse along with the other children was their first attempt at speaking English.

Not only are Bibles used in Sunday school and church services, but play an important part in Christian club activities. Special occasion programs are times for simple religious dramas, Bible memory work, and stories told by boys and girls to their parents and friends.

Yes, we migrant workers with the Home Missions Council of North America use and need Bibles. We thank the American Bible Society for the fine cooperation they are giving us, and want it known that the Bibles they supply are used and greatly appreciated.

For those to whom life, because of their constant movement in following the crops, seems uncertain, the message of "... but my words shall not pass away" brings stability and hope.

At Christmas time the Home Missions Council community workers were visiting one of their migrant

camp. Through the cooperation of many churches of Arizona, simple gifts were being presented to the children. A Negro mother approached the workers and said, "My Terry doesn't have a Bible—could he have one instead of a toy?" The request was from the mother, but Terry also had learned the value of such a gift and for years will treasure its possession.

## Bibles to and from Formosa

THE great island of Formosa, off the south coast of China, is very much in the news these days. Perhaps Bible lovers would like to know that large supplies of Chinese Scriptures are frequently being sent to Taipeh, where the bookstore managed by Rev. and Mrs. J. N. Montgomery sells hundreds of Bibles and New Testaments every month.

Mr. L. Singleton in Tainan is also making a similar distribution in southern Formosa. The Church in Southern Formosa is a Bible-reading Church, largely due to having the Scriptures in Roman characters, which are simple to learn.

Earlier this year 2,000 Bibles were sent from Hong Kong to Formosa. Indo-China, Burma, Malaya, Indonesia, the Philippine Islands and Japan are also receiving Chinese Scriptures from Formosa.

## World Circulation of the Bible

IN response to many requests M. Olivier Béguin, General Secretary of the United Bible Societies, has issued the following figures of Scripture distribution by the member Societies in 1949:

The total number of Scriptures circulated by all national Bible Societies throughout the world last year amounts to 19,819,033, in comparison with 14,108,436 in 1947 and 17,505,584 in 1948. The 1949 figure includes 1,893,910 Bibles, 3,777,526 New Testaments and 13,091,906 Portions, details of the balance of 1,055,691 not having been recorded.

Of this total the American Bible Society has circulated 8,822,880 copies of Scripture, the British and Foreign Bible Society 7,058,869 copies and the National Bible Society of Scotland 1,150,955 copies.

The United States, China, Japan, Great Britain and Brazil are the countries where the Bible Societies have circulated the most copies of Scripture (more than a million in each country). It is in Germany that the Bible Societies have had their largest circulation of complete Bibles (over 316,000); this was due to the combined efforts of the German Bible Societies with the American, British and Swedish Bible Societies.

To arrive at the total distribution of Scriptures in the world there must be added to the total given above the number of volumes commercially produced. This figure is never released, but careful estimates indicate a possible sale of 5,000,000 additional volumes—making the total of Bible distribution in the world, both missionary and commercial, approximately 25,000,000 in 1949.



# "We Didn't Know Anyone Loved Us So"

BY MATILDA WHITAKER

BUILD the World of Tomorrow by Saving the Child of Today" is the commendable aim of the Save the Children Federation founded in 1932 and sponsored by some of the nation's most trusted leaders, including Herbert Hoover, Miss Virginia Gildersleeve, Bishop Tucker and Mr. Thomas J. Watson.

Secretary Hodges of the Haven Agency of the American Bible Society recently responded to a request received through the Federation from Knox County, Kentucky for Bibles for the children of the needy churches among the colored population there. It was my happy responsibility to distribute the books that were sent. I wish that every reader of the *Record* could have been looking over my shoulder as I made the presentations and seen the response on the faces of the people as I told them where the Scriptures came from.

One lady who had charge of the smaller children at the annual session of one of the Vacation Bible Schools was so happy that she just sat down in a chair, removed her

glasses and wept silently. When in a few moments she was composed enough to speak, she said, "We didn't know that anyone loved the Colored people enough to give us this many Testaments. We have children in our church who have never had a Bible of their own. But God says in His Word, He would supply our needs according to his riches in glory." If you could have seen the expression on her face as she spoke, I am sure you would have felt fully paid for your wonderful gift.

This group of Colored people are far more spiritually minded than the average. Their school, which is the only one they have in this county, is so bare! They still use pot-bellied stoves and they have never had a library of any kind. And they have such a unique way of expressing their gratitude for any kindness shown them. It was a blessing to my own soul to be the one to make these presentations. I know the American Bible Society never had more grateful and appreciative recipients of their wonderful Book. We shall continue to pray for you and your great work.

## "It is Good English, so. . . ."

BY CHARLES F. BANNING

LAST YEAR General MacArthur selected fifty Japanese teachers to come to the United States for a year of study in American Universities. Two of these young men were sent to Connecticut State University. The young people of Central Baptist Church in Norwich, Connecticut invited them to spend a week-end in their church. What a fine experience it was for both the teachers and the young people!



*Mr. Omuru and Mr. Kondo are the second and third from the right in the front row*

The Japanese young men had been raised in Buddhism but have forsaken it. But they have not accepted Christianity. During their week-end in Norwich they stayed in a Christian home for the first time in their lives. They observed family worship, at-

tended a baptismal service, sat in a Christian young people's meeting, all for the first time.

Although not a Christian, one of the young men, Mr. Omuru, was quite familiar with the Bible. When the pastor quoted a verse Mr. Omuru could tell from memory where the verse could be found. Upon questioning it was discovered that he is a teacher of English in a government university. The one English book they can all secure freely in Japan is the Bible. "It is good English, so why not use the Bible as a textbook?" asked this young Japanese. Here is a question we might ask many English teachers in America.

Mr. Kondo is a teacher of psychology. He is a native of Hiroshima and was in the city at the time the atomic bomb was dropped. He told the young people a very dramatic story of his experience at that time. Next year the young people plan to bring in students from other countries for week-ends. There is no surer way to create and nurture mutual understanding toward the day of enduring peace than international student fellowship around the Bible.

A worker for the Home Missions Council of North America wrote late in August: "Yesterday I worshiped with 110 Puerto Rican men and their farmer employers in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. At the close of the service several waited for Scriptures and I found the supply you sent me was almost exhausted. Will you please send another package for this wonderful ministry, which is leading so many to a first-hand knowledge of the Scriptures and the discovery of Christ and the acknowledging Him as Lord and Saviour?"

A package of 150 Spanish and English Scriptures went off at once.



# Testimony From Hollywood

**A**MONG THE 8,244,374 Scripture volumes provided for the United States Armed Forces during the Second World War and to date, 20,000 New Testaments were furnished for lifeboats and life rafts on the vessels of the Merchant Marine, sealed in waterproof jackets, for use should the men have to take to the sea in these emergency craft without their personal copies, which also were provided by the Society. An interesting item came this spring from Commander Harold E. Allport, Jr. of the Gen. Arthur MacArthur Post of the American Legion in Hollywood, California. He wrote the Society:

I would like to report the ultimate use of one of the New Testaments you furnished for lifeboats and rafts during the recent war.

I carried this Testament in its waterproof jacket on eighteen Atlantic crossings, Mediterranean trips, through the Panama Canal into the Pacific, crossing the Pacific for minesweeping operations near Japan, and finally back to the United States. I recently presented it, on behalf of our Post, to the Hollywood Y.M.C.A. They placed it, among other significant articles, in a container which was sealed in the cornerstone of an addition being made to their building, to be used in youth counseling. The two counselors are

sponsored by local community-spirited groups, including this Post. The Testament will remain there for many years, and some day will be uncovered and will remind those hereafter of your good work.

May I personally thank you for providing the Holy Scriptures for our ship? I can say that they contributed greatly to the spirit of the men.

*Commander Allport, at the left, hands the waterproofed Testament for deposit in the cornerstone*



## Bible Reading Luncheon Group



For a half hour every Thursday noon this group of employees of the engineering department at the Ford Motor Company's Dearborn, Michigan plant meet for Bible reading. John Bartholomew, third from the left around the table, and Lawrence Ward, third from the right, are the founders. Says Mr. Bartholomew: "We feel that during these days, when our Christian way of life is threatened by communism, these weekly meetings serve as an inspiration to us to live Christian lives at work as well as away from the job."

All employees of the company's engineering division have been invited to attend the meetings of the organization, which is known as the Dearborn Electrical Engineering Christian Fellowship Group.



Secretary S. Ruth Barrett, in charge of the Society's Work for the Blind, inspects the ten volumes comprising the newly published Korean New Testament donated by the Korean Bible Society to the Library at the Bible House in New York. These books were published in Korea with Braille paper and black cloth supplied by the American Bible Society last year. The Society also supplied 598 pounds of zinc for making Braille plates for additional Books of the Bible for the Korean blind.



# MEMBERS' FORUM

Annual Membership in the Society is secured through gift of \$5 or more for the carrying on of its work. The Society also provides for Life Membership, Life Stewardship and Memorial Membership. Particulars can be sent on request. The editors welcome correspondence from members and devote this page in each issue to that purpose.]

## From Minneapolis, Minnesota:

You cannot know how happy I am to be able to send this gift for the work of the American Bible Society, unless I tell you how it was made possible. Today, as I was reading Secretary Taylor's appeal for funds so that the Scriptures may be printed and distributed wherever people do not know Our Lord, or where they know and love Jesus their Saviour but have lost their own copy of the Word of Life, I longed to send a large gift but did not know how I could do it from my present resources. Within the last year, you see, I left a salaried teaching position to work in the office of a faith mission that had led me to love particularly.

You will understand that this new walk of faith has not been without its testings, but God has shown me even now something of the wonderful faithfulness with which He meets the trust that reaches out to Him for daily supply of every need.

So I prayed Him today that He would make my faith strong, so that I would send a gift of ten dollars to the Bible Society; and what should I find when I got home from the office but a note with ten dollars attached, left in my room by a candidate of our Mission who was here overnight and with whom I had had some happy fellowship before I left the house this morning. It was so wonderful to have God answer me so promptly; and the fact that He did so makes me realize all the more how eager He is to get the Word of Life out to the remotest parts of the earth.

## From Dearborn, Michigan:

I am sending you the small amount of \$15 to be used especially for Bibles to Japan. This is given as a sort of "living memorial" for a very wonderful pastor of mine who is still living. I believe in giving before people are gone so they can enjoy the giving too.

## From the Superintendent of the Oreville Mennonite Home, Lancaster, Pennsylvania:

Enclosed you will find an unusual gift for the American Bible Society. The old folks in the Home decided, instead of buying cheap Christmas presents, to put their money together and give it to this worthy organization. A check of \$114 is enclosed.

## From an Air Force Chaplain, Washington, D.C.:

Thank you for your letter of May 4, 1950. Yes, my contribution was a personal gift. It was prompted by a sense of appreciation for the many Bibles and New Testaments that you sent to me during the war for use among the soldiers. I only wish that this gift were many times larger; but for more than three years I have been giving sacrificially in overseas relief, sending both food and clothing parcels each month to Germany and Italy.

In the recent number of *The Military Chaplain* I was pleased to read what Dr. Eric North said about General MacArthur's request for Bibles in Japan.

You are doing a good work and the only work that has any chance of saving our world from total destruction.

## From Ancon, Canal Zone:

I am so sorry I cannot send more for this worthy cause; but I am a missionary and have very little to give, as I see such a vast need right here on my own field. However, I am praying for this great effort of yours, and it thrills my heart to know that such a thing is being done. [The reference was to the Society's endeavor to supply 10,000,000 Bibles and Testaments to Japan.—Ed.]

## From Farina, Illinois:

Mrs. Lucy Holstlaw is more than half through her 100th year. If she lives till January 11, 1951, she will celebrate her 100th birthday.

She wishes me to say that she has sent contributions to the American Bible Society for many years and is glad to have been able to do so. She has often thought each contribution would be her last, but as long as the Lord lets her live she thinks she ought to help with His work.

## From Addis Ababa, Ethiopia:

We are in South Ethiopia, Maji Province, in the midst of eighteen tribes with different languages and not a Gospel witness amongst them! In the two years since we came the Lord has encouraged us by calling out a group of Majis who believe and are learning to be Christ's "full disciples." The Bible is printed in Amharic, the official language of Ethiopia; and as we teach our people to read—256 phonetic characters!—they must also learn a new language. A few know both; others help the rest. We are increasingly full of praise to God for His faithfulness and the power of His word.

We are over 200 miles from any other English-speaking persons, and radio is our only contact with the world up to date. Monthly post brings joy, and we all read and appreciate the *Record*.

Our prayers go with this portion of our tithe for God's power to multiply its usefulness in distribution of His Word.



# EDITORIAL COMMENT

## Bible Society Record

*A Journal Dedicated to the Wider Distribution and Use of the Holy Scriptures*

Editors: THE SECRETARIES

Address correspondence to the

Managing Editor

FRANCIS CARR STIFLER

450 Park Avenue

New York 22, N. Y.



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### Daily Bible Readings

#### OCTOBER

Day	Book	Chapter	Day	Book	Chapter
1	Sunday, Judges	5:1-23	16	Philippians	4
2	Judges	6:1-18	17	I Timothy	4
3	Judges	6:19-40	18	II Timothy	1
4	Judges	7:1-14	19	II Timothy	2
5	Judges	7:15-25	20	II Timothy	3
6	Judges	8:10-35	21	II Timothy	4
7	Acts	16	22	Sunday, Luke	10
8	Sunday, Acts	22	23	Acts	17:1-15
9	Psalms	25	24	Acts	17:16-34
10	Psalms	119:33-40	25	Joshua	1:1-9
11	Psalms	119:105-112	26	Joshua	14:6-15
12	Matthew	28:9-20	27	Joshua	24:14-24
13	Philippians	1	28	Ephesians	2:8-22
14	Philippians	2	29	Sunday, Jude	1
15	Sunday, Philippians	3	30	Proverbs	22
			31	Psalms	19

★ ★

### Broadcasts on the Pacific Coast

Readers of the *Bible Society Record* living within the range of Station KGER, Long Beach, California, 1390 on the dial, will be glad to hear the Society's programs to be given through the month of October on every Sunday afternoon from 4:30 to 5:00. The program is entitled "The Bible Speaks." Beside appropriate music and statements about the Society's work each program presents a special guest who relates from first-hand experience how the Bible has served in various fields of evangelistic and mission work.

Also, consult your local American Broadcasting Network station for the time it presents each Tuesday the Society's interviews with prominent citizens on their favorite Scripture passages.

### August Meeting of the Board

A meeting of the Board of Managers of the American Bible Society in its one hundred and thirty-fifth year was held at the Bible House, 450 Park Avenue, New York 22, on Thursday, August 3, 1950, at 3:30 p.m., President Daniel Burke, LL.D., in the Chair.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Dr. H. R. Bowler.

The President reported the death of Evangeline Booth, a Vice President; of Dr. George Woolsey, a Manager; and of Alfred G. Blair, a Field Secretary of the Society.

The following Memorial Minutes were adopted:

#### General Evangeline Booth

General Evangeline Booth died at her home in Hartsdale, New York, on Monday, July 17th after an illness of two years. She was 84 years old.

General Booth was elected a Vice President of the American Bible Society in February 1923. She was the best known Salvation Army worker in the world, born in the same year her father founded the Salvation Army. She was a musician and composer of hymns, her favorite instrument being the harp.

General Booth loved and lived the Bible. During her long and active life she worked among the poor in many lands, in peace and in war, earning the lasting gratitude of all with whom she came in contact.

The Board of Managers would record its appreciation of her life and extend to her family its deepest sympathy.

#### George Woolsey, M.D.

In the death of George Woolsey, M.D., a retired surgeon, on July 1, 1950, in his eighty-ninth year, the Society lost one of its senior members of the Board. Dr. Woolsey was elected a member of the Board in May 1925, serving for nearly 25 years on the Committee on National Distribution. He was a Presbyterian. A son of Theodore Dwight Woolsey, president of Yale University from 1846 to 1871, and Mrs. Sarah Sears Prichard Woolsey, he was himself a graduate of Yale and a native of New Haven. While during his career he had been a surgeon on the staff of several New York hospitals, having written many articles on medical subjects, he was also deeply concerned in the spiritual life of the needy and attended regularly the Board and Committee meetings, giving much of his time and counsel. Many members of the staff at the Bible House will long remember his kindly presence.

The Board of Managers extends to Mrs. Woolsey and their children heartfelt sympathy and records this minute in honor of his memory and with appreciation of his long Christian service.

#### Alfred Granville Blair

The Board of Managers of the American Bible Society is saddened to learn of the

death on July 8, 1950 of Field Secretary Alfred G. Blair of Pasadena.

Secretary Blair, a native of New Jersey, had spent forty years of his life in Southern California.

After a successful career as an insurance broker, the crowning years of his life were devoted to his main interest, the distribution of the Scriptures. To this end he established in 1941 "The Bible Center" at the heart of Pasadena. This was a California corporation with the purpose of maintaining a building for conducting a non-denominational Christian religious reading room and a library of religious books and literature for the express purpose of encouraging and developing a forum for the open discussion of religious subjects and particularly the Holy Bible, and with the definite purpose of doing all possible to further the dissemination of the doctrines of Christianity. In 1943 the Bible Center was affiliated with the American Bible Society, and on October 1, 1943 Mr. Blair became a Field Secretary of the Society and established its work in Southern California.

As a Secretary of the American Bible Society he served faithfully and well. He was especially effective in Scripture distribution; in encouraging individual gifts and annuities; and in guiding those who wished to remember the Bible Society in their wills.

Besides his association with the Bible cause, Mr. Blair was for many years a director of the Union Rescue Mission of Los Angeles. He was a member of the Pasadena Presbyterian Church.

The Board extends its prayerful sympathy to Mrs. Blair; his daughter, Mrs. Naomi Ruoff; his son, Granville Blair; and other members of his family.

It was reported that since the last meeting of the Board the Blind Department had been working at full speed and had produced new recordings on 10-inch records of the following Books of the Bible: Joshua on 4 records; Judges on 1 record; Ruth on 1 record; Amos on 1 record; Micah and Nahum on 1 record. The Society's Small Volume of Scripture Passages was also newly recorded on 10-inch records for the Blind.

The complete New Testament in Finnish Braille in 14 large volumes, which had just arrived from Finland, was presented to the Board.

The resignation of Rev. Dr. C. W. Iglehart as a ministerial member of the Board was reported, as he is returning to August to Japan.

The Board learned with deep regret of the death of Sr. Andrés Key, subgeneral of the work in Venezuela.

First edition copies of The Sermon on the Mount in Korean and English and also in Japanese and English were presented to the Board.



## "The Hosannahs Do Not Die"

FOR many years the American Bible Society has been publishing and supplying the entire Bible in the Bulu language, spoken by 600,000 people who live in southern Cameroon, West Africa. A shipment of 5,000 was sent earlier this year to the mission field. Here in America, where we are surfeited with almost every conceivable comfort and have more Bibles than we can use, it is hard for us to realize what a Bible means to people who have found Christ but who yet have never had a Bible of their own.

In a letter recently received from Rev. and Mrs. Joseph MacNeill, who serve under the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), we quote the following paragraph, which carries the triumphant note of Gospel triumph:

On Palm Sunday we attended a remarkable service in the leper colony at Elat. The choir came down the aisle on bandaged feet, some with mere stumps of hands—all with great light in their eyes while they chanted, "His mercy endureth forever!" For such as these Christ made His triumphal entry, and on the lips of such the hosannahs do not die. The service was a joyous one, especially for fifteen young boys and girls who recited from memory six entire psalms and the 14th chapter of John, and received leather-bound copies of the Bible in Bulu—a gift from a friend in America.



Judge William H. McNaugher is here seen presenting one of the 450 Bibles awarded to the graduates of the Pittsburgh (Pa.) Religious Education classes. The Judge is not only a member of the Board of Directors of the Pittsburgh Council of Churches, but also of the Pittsburgh Advisory Committee of the American Bible Society. Next to Judge McNaugher is Mr. George J. Stanley, Vice President of the Gulf Refining Company, also a Director of the Council of Churches, and at the right is Dr. Paul E. Felton, Vice President of Westinghouse High School and Chairman of the Religious Education Committee of the Council of Churches. The Bibles were provided by the American Bible Society, the cost covered by the gift of a generous Pittsburgh citizen.



Wherever young people gather to study their Christian obligations the Bible should be central. To emphasize this, Mr. Charles Haulman, who shows the Society's films in his area, set up a Bible exhibit for a Young People's Conference that recently met at Wittenburg College in Ohio. The accompanying picture taken there indicates what a well-posted attendant at such an exhibit may do to awaken young people to their responsibility for knowing their Bibles and for sharing them with people in this needy world who do not have the Bible.

## American Bible Society Directory

(Presented in more complete form on this page in every other issue)

**President,** Daniel Burke; **Secretaries:** E. M. North, F. W. Cropp, F. H. Mann, R. T. Taylor; **Treasurer,** Gilbert Darlington; **Secretary for Public Relations,** F. C. Stifler; **Secretary for Promotion of Bible Use,** James V. Claypool, 35 E. Wacker Drive, Chicago 1; **Secretary for Translations,** E. A. Nida; **Secretary for Visual Materials,** H. H. Ragatz; **Secretary, Work for the Blind,** Miss S. R. Barrett; **Assistant Secretary, Foreign Department,** P. A. Collyer.

**HEADQUARTERS:** Bible House, 450 Park Avenue, New York 22, N.Y.; telephone, Plaza 9-4300.

**DISTRICT OFFICES:** in the United States: 116 South Salina St., Syracuse 2, New York; 701 Walnut St., Philadelphia 6, Pa.; 9 East Franklin St., Baltimore 2, Md.; Central Nat'l Bank Bldg., Richmond 19, Va.; 85 Walton St., Atlanta 3, Ga.; 519 Main St., Cincinnati 2, Ohio; 47 South 9th St., Minneapolis 2, Minn.; 2233 Bryan St., Dallas 4, Texas; 1445 Glenarm, Denver 2, Colo.; 224 McAllister St., San Francisco 2, Cal.

**DIVISION OFFICES OF THE HAVEN MEMORIAL AGENCY FOR COLORED PEOPLE:** 56 Gammon Ave., S.E., Atlanta, Ga.; St. Luke Bldg., 902 St. James St., Richmond 20, Va.; 5424 Woodland Ave., Cleveland 4, Ohio; 2516 Thomas Ave., Dallas 4, Texas.

**FIELD OFFICES:** 1504 Arrott Bldg., Pittsburgh 22, Pa.; 226 Seventh Ave., North Nashville, Tenn.; 325 Ramona St., Pasadena 1, Cal.; 815 Kales Bldg., Detroit, Mich.; 609 Baptist Bldg., 310 North Ervay St., Dallas 1, Texas; 515 Pickwick Bldg., 9th & McGee Sts., Kansas City 6, Mo.; 1435 G Street, N.W., Washington 5, D.C.

Depositories located at same addresses in New York, Atlanta, 35 E. Wacker Drive, Chicago 1, Dallas and San Francisco.

**FOREIGN AGENCIES** located in: Havana; Mexico City; Cristóbal, Canal Zone; Lima, Peru; Santiago, Chile; Buenos Aires, Argentina; Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Istanbul, Turkey; Cairo, Egypt; Manila, P.I.; Bangkok, Siam; Shanghai, China; Tokyo, Japan.

Cooperating Bible Societies in New England located in: Portland, Me.; Concord, N.H.; Burlington, Vt.; Boston, Mass.; Providence, R.I.; Hartford, Conn.





**"The grass withereth,  
the flower fadeth,  
but the word of our  
God shall stand for-  
ever."**

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